

# **Parking Tickets**

If you receive a parking ticket, you must respond within 15 calendar days (including weekends) of the date on the ticket. The day after the date on the ticket counts as day 1. You may respond by admitting liability and paying the ticket or contesting the ticket.

## How can I pay a ticket?

You must pay within 15 calendar days of the date on the ticket, or the fine is doubled. For your convenience, DC DMV provides three payment options: drop box, by mail, or in-person.

#### **Drop Boxes**

- Drop Boxes are available at all DC DMV service centers and police district headquarters. They
  provide a convenient way to pay parking tickets, for those paying by check or money order.
- Make your check or money order payable to the DC Treasurer (do not send cash) and write the ticket number on your payment. Include your ticket, or if you do not have your ticket, write the vehicle's state and license plate number on your check or money order (e.g. DC License Plate #123456).

#### Mail

- Make your check or money order payable to the DC Treasurer (do not send cash) and write the ticket number on your payment. Include your ticket, or if you do not have your ticket, write the vehicle's state and license plate number on your check or money order (e.g. DC License Plate #123456).
- Send your ticket and check or money order to: DC DMV/ Adjudication Services, PO Box 2014, Washington, DC 20013.

#### In-Person

- Payments are accepted at 65 K Street NE, Mon Fri 8:30 am to 6:45 pm and Wed 8:30 am to 7:45 pm.
- If you bring your ticket with you to 65 K Street, you may proceed directly to the cashier window to pay your ticket.
- If you do not bring your ticket with you to 65 K Street, please go to the service window and present your driver's license to obtain a printout of your parking ticket(s), then proceed to the cashier window to pay the parking tickets.
- You may pay by cash, check, money order, or Mastercard, Visa or Discover credit cards. (If your car has been booted or towed, or if you have a dishonored check stop on your record, we regret that we cannot accept personal checks.)

### How can I contest a ticket?

You must contest a ticket within 15 calendar days of the date on the ticket. If you do not contest or pay your parking ticket within 15 days of receiving the ticket, the fine doubles, and you may lose your opportunity to have a hearing. You may either contest by mail or by appearing at a walk-in hearing.

#### Mail

- Complete the back of the ticket and mark "deny".
- Include the ticket and your written response, and submit any evidence, such as photographs or receipts, which you think might help your case.
- Send to: DC DMV/Adjudication Services, Attn: Mail Adjudication, PO Box 37135, Washington, DC 20013
- You will be notified in writing of the hearing examiner's decision within 6 to 8 weeks.

-More Information on Reverse Side-

DC DMV Customer Service (202) 727-5000

www.dmv.dcgov.org



# **Parking Tickets**

## Walk-in Hearing

- Hearings for parking tickets are available on a walk-in basis only, at 65 K Street NE, Mon Fri from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm and Wed from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm.
- To be eligible for a walk-in parking hearing, you must be the registered vehicle owner, or have Power of Attorney signed by the registered owner authorizing you to act on his/her behalf. Power of Attorney forms are available at the information desk at 65 K Street, NE.

## What happens at a hearing?

Hearings give you a fair opportunity to present your case to a hearing examiner. Know what to expect at your hearing by reading the information below, and be sure to bring evidence (such as photographs or receipts) to support your case.

- A hearing examiner will conduct the hearing. Hearing examiners are legally empowered to make decisions, and their decisions are binding.
- All hearings are recorded.
- The examiner will ask you to state your name and address and swear or affirm that your testimony will be true.
- The examiner will read the ticket information for the record, including the parking violation for which you received the ticket. This is the "government's charge."
- When the examiner asks you to "answer the government's charge" you must either admit or deny liability. Admitting liability means that you are agreeing that you committed the violation and thus must pay the fine. Denying liability means that you are contesting the ticket.
- You will then present any evidence you brought to the hearing in support of your case.

You may deny the violation (contest the ticket) only if one of the following applies and you have the evidence to support your denial:

- You were not the owner or lessee of the vehicle at the time the violation was issued.
- The vehicle or its license plates were stolen at the time the ticket was issued (a police report is required as evidence).
- The relevant signs were missing or obscured.
- The relevant parking meter was inoperable or malfunctioning through no fault of your own.
- The facts alleged on the ticket do not support the violation.

The hearing examiner will make a decision after hearing your testimony and evidence. If the examiner dismisses the ticket, you do not have to pay the fine. If the examiner upholds the ticket, you must pay the fine within 5 calendar days of the hearing date.

## What if I don't respond to the parking ticket within 15 days?

If you don't pay or contest the ticket within 15 days, the amount owed doubles. The ticket is now considered delinquent, and DC DMV will mail a notice to the registered owner's address of record.

If the registered owner fails to respond to the delinquent notice within 30 days by paying or contesting the ticket, the ticket goes into default. The registered owner may not contest a default ticket, and must pay all fines and penalties. A \$5 default fee is added to the ticket after the 30-day period.

DC DMV Customer Service (202) 727-5000

www.dmv.dcgov.org